

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

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Helen Brennan,

Plaintiff,

v.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, et
al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:20-cv-00662-RFB-DJA

Order

On December 20, 2021, the Court granted Plaintiff's counsel's motion to withdraw. (ECF No. 68). It then ordered Plaintiff to inform the Court whether she would proceed *pro se* or retain counsel by January 21, 2022. (*Id.*). After that deadline passed, the Court ordered Plaintiff to show cause why she failed to comply with the deadline. (ECF No. 69). The Court gave Plaintiff until February 27, 2022 to respond. (*Id.*). Plaintiff timely responded by emailing the Court's help desk. (ECF No. 70). She explained that she is actively looking for a new lawyer and is willing to represent herself if needed. (*Id.*). She also requested additional time to find a lawyer. (*Id.*).

The broad purpose of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure is to "secure the just, speedy, and inexpensive determination of every action and proceeding" Fed. R. Civ. P. 1. "Orderly and expeditious resolution of disputes" is of utmost importance in the rule of law. *In re Phynylpropanolamine Products Liability Litigation*, 460 F.3d 1217, 1227 (9th Cir. 2006). Here, because Plaintiff has indicated a willingness to represent herself while finding a lawyer, the Court declines to grant her additional time to retain counsel. Plaintiff has not provided an estimate of how long it may take her to find counsel and has not been active in this case since her attorney withdrew in December. Given the delays this case has already experienced, granting additional time for Plaintiff to find a lawyer when she has indicated a willingness to represent herself would undermine the "speedy" determination goal of Rule 1. The Court will thus consider Plaintiff as

1 proceeding *pro se*. Plaintiff may retain a lawyer at any time, in which event her lawyer should
2 file a notice of new counsel.

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4 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED** that Plaintiff's request for an extension of time (ECF
5 No. 69) is **denied**. The Court will consider Plaintiff as proceeding *pro se*. The Court directs
6 Plaintiff to review the "self-help" section of the United States District Court for the District of
7 Nevada's website, which can be found at <https://www.nvd.uscourts.gov/self-help/>. Plaintiff will
8 be responsible for meeting case deadlines and attending upcoming hearings, including the hearing
9 scheduled in front of the Honorable District Judge Richard F. Boulware, II on **March 25, 2022 at**
10 **8:30 a.m.** (ECF No. 72). The Clerk of Court is kindly directed to mail Plaintiff a copy of this
11 order and a copy of the minute order entered at ECF No. 72.

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13 DATED: March 17, 2022

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16 DANIEL J. ALBREGTS
17 UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE
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